

does recommend that we take a serious look at certain aspects of the eligibility determination process. And that is what our legislation does.

First, the legislation tightens eligibility to ensure that only children with severe and persistent impairments, which substantially limit their ability to function, receive benefits. Second, it increases and better targets continuing disability reviews to ensure that only those who remain eligible actually continue to receive benefits. Third, it expands penalties for coaching children to act inappropriately in order to receive benefits. Finally, it imposes graduated payments for additional children, like other cash assistance programs such as AFDC.

Mr. President, I think this legislation is a fair and balanced approach. It acknowledges and corrects abuses in the system while reinforcing the purpose of the program: to enable children with disabilities to remain at home or in another appropriate and cost-effective setting and to cover the additional costs of caring for and raising such a child.

Who is this money serving? Children like Juan, a 9-year-old youngster in my home State of Rhode Island. Juan has been on SSI since birth, confined to a wheelchair and dependent on medical technology to survive. Without the cash assistance he receives under SSI, Juan's mother would be forced to put him into a residential facility at a cost of almost \$200,000 per year. Compare this to the maximum SSI benefit of \$438 a month. It seems to me that we are getting a pretty good deal, and that families like Juan's deserve every nickel they get.

The Finance Committee will be taking up this issue in the coming weeks as part of welfare reform. Many of my colleagues are familiar with the provision in the House-passed welfare reform bill which would eliminate cash assistance for all children unless they would be otherwise institutionalized. In my view, this should be rejected. I sincerely hope that my colleagues on the Finance Committee will consider the legislation we are introducing today as an alternative which provides effective reforms without removing disabled children from the rolls who are truly in need.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today in support of Senator CONRAD's Childhood Supplemental Security Income [SSI] Eligibility Reform Act. I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this bill. I would like to begin by acknowledging and thanking my colleague Senator CONRAD for his hard work and dedication on drafting this bill to cure the problems in the children's SSI program. I am hopeful for this bill's quick consideration and adoption.

In the welfare reform bill passed earlier this year by our colleagues in the House, substantial changes were made in the children's SSI program. However, I believe that the House version

of this bill fails to address the criticisms leveled towards this program while at the same time ensuring that the children and families that rely on and need these benefits receive them.

For example, a family I know of in Vermont has two young children with cystic fibrosis. They live in a very rural area of Vermont about 2 hours away from the specialty clinic and hospital they go to. This distance creates a constant expense of travel to this clinic and hospital. In addition, the medication costs for the two children are very high. The infant had growth problems related to malabsorption which required special formula. The older child had severe malabsorption that required surgery and requires subsequent close follow-up of his nutritional status.

The father of these children works full time, but has to take time off to attend the clinics with the children and to transport and visit them in the hospital. Some of the time off is unpaid because he has limited vacation time.

The children's mother had intended to return to work after they were born but cannot find a day care provider who is comfortable with the children's medical care needs. She undoubtedly would also have difficulty finding an employer who would allow her the necessary time off for appointments, hospitalizations, and so forth.

Mr. President, this family has a clear need for the Medicaid coverage and extra income that SSI provides. It is difficult to imagine how they could continue to provide the medical care that their children need without these benefits. They are a hard-working and tax-paying couple who struggle to do the best that they can for their children. The effect of the House bill on this family would be devastating, while our bill would ensure that this family that needs to receive these benefits would still receive them.

I believe that the bill being introduced today will meet both of these goals: preserve the essential parts of the children's SSI program, while, at the same time, addressing the concerns raised by its critics. I would now like to address the valid criticisms of the SSI program, and our specific solutions in the bill to these criticisms.

First, our bill will address the issue that SSI's purpose for children with disabilities was never sufficiently defined. By defining the program as maintaining children with disabilities in the most appropriate and cost effective setting, and enhancing such children's opportunities to develop into independent adults, our bill will combat the old once-disabled-always-disabled way of thinking.

This bill will also combat the current problem that children who are not severely disabled are drawing benefits. By tightening the SSI eligibility requirements, our bill will ensure that children and families that truly need these benefits will be receiving them.

In addition, by increasing penalties to parents and guardians that know-

ingly and willfully coach children to act in ways that render them eligible for SSI, and requiring greater use of standardized testing, our bill will stem the practice of children who should be ineligible for benefits being found to be eligible for SSI.

Further, our bill will graduate payments to families for each additional child in the family receiving SSI benefits. This provision will ensure that families with multiple kids receiving SSI benefits will not be receiving the maximum benefit for each child.

Finally, our bill will help children receiving SSI benefits move toward self-sufficiency. I, for one, find this to be one of the most important provisions of the bill. By ensuring that we move people toward self-sufficiency, we are helping reduce the number of children receiving SSI benefits, while increasing the possibility that these individuals will not require future governmental support.

Mr. President, I believe that our bill changes what is wrong with the SSI program while maintaining legitimate benefits that children and their families rely on. We don't want to go back to a much more costly system that institutionalizes children rather than affording them an opportunity for productive and self-sufficient lives. Thus, I feel confident in stating that this bill will ensure that continued support of SSI benefits to families, like the one from Vermont I described earlier, while solving some of the problems currently plaguing the children's SSI system.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 234

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Colorado [Mr. BROWN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 234, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to exempt a State from certain penalties for failing to meet requirements relating to motorcycle helmet laws if the State has in effect a motorcycle safety program, and to delay the effective date of certain penalties for States that fail to meet certain requirements for motorcycle safety laws, and for other purposes.

S. 240

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Montana [Mr. BAUCUS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 240, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to establish a filing deadline and to provide certain safeguards to ensure that the interests of investors are well protected under the implied private action provisions of the Act.

S. 256

At the request of Mr. DOLE, the names of the Senator from Utah [Mr. HATCH] and the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. FAIRCLOTH] were added as cosponsors of S. 256, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to establish procedures for determining the

status of certain missing members of the Armed Forces and certain civilians, and for other purposes.

S. 302

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. CHAFEE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 302, a bill to make a technical correction to section 11501(h)(2) of title 49, United States Code.

S. 383

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Ohio [Mr. DEWINE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 383, a bill to provide for the establishment of policy on the deployment by the United States of an antiballistic missile system and of advanced theater missile defense systems.

S. 440

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 440, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for the designation of the National Highway System, and for other purposes.

S. 641

At the request of Mrs. KASSEBAUM, the name of the Senator from Kansas [Mr. DOLE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 641, a bill to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act of 1990, and for other purposes.

S. 684

At the request of Mr. HATFIELD, the name of the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. FORD] was added as a cosponsor of S. 684, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for programs of research regarding Parkinson's disease, and for other purposes.

S. 768

At the request of Mr. GORTON, the name of the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 768, a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to reauthorize the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 770

At the request of Mr. GORTON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 770, a bill to provide for the relocation of the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DOLE, the name of the Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER] was added as a cosponsor of S. 770, supra.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE ACT OF 1995

THOMPSON AMENDMENT NO. 756

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. THOMPSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 534) to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to provide authority for States to limit the inter-

state transportation of municipal solid waste, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 56, line 18, strike after "delivered," through "provision" on line 21.

BAUCUS AMENDMENT NO. 757

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 534, supra; as follows:

On page 50, strike line 18 and insert the following: "in which the generator of the waste has an ownership interest."

DODD (AND LIEBERMAN) AMENDMENT NO. 758

Mr. CHAFEE (for Mr. DODD, for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 534, supra; as follows:

On page 62, line 4, after the words public service authority, add "or its operator".

ROTH (AND BIDEN) AMENDMENT NO. 759

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. ROTH (for himself and Mr. BIDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, S. 534, supra; as follows:

On page 53, line 3, strike "or political subdivision" and insert "political subdivision, or public service authority".

On page 53, line 4, strike "or political subdivision" and insert "political subdivision, or public service authority".

On page 53, lines 7 and 8, strike "or political subdivision" and insert "political subdivision, or public service authority".

On page 53, line 10, strike "or political subdivision" and insert "political subdivision, or public service authority".

On page 56, lines 1 and 2 strike "and each political subdivision of a State" and insert "political subdivision of a State, and public service authority".

On page 56, line 12, strike "or political subdivision" and insert "political subdivision, or public service authority".

On page 56, line 22, strike "operation" and insert "existence".

On page 57, line 4, strike "or political subdivision" and insert "political subdivision, or public service authority".

On page 57, line 7, strike "or political subdivision" and insert "political subdivision, or public service authority".

On page 57, line 21, strike "or political subdivision" and insert "political subdivision, or public service authority".

CAMPBELL (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 760

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. KEMPTHORNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill S. 534, supra; as follows:

On page 69, strike the quotation mark and period at the end of line 22.

On page 69, between lines 22 and 23, insert the following:

"(5) NO-MIGRATION EXEMPTIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Ground water monitoring requirements may be suspended by the Director of an approved State for a landfill operator if the operator demonstrates that there is no potential for migration of

hazardous constituents from the unit to the uppermost aquifer during the active life of the unit and the post-closure care period.

"(B) CERTIFICATION.—A demonstration under subparagraph (A) shall—

"(i) be certified by a qualified groundwater scientist and approved by the Director of an approved State.

"(C) GUIDANCE.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall issue a guidance document to facilitate and streamline small community use of the no migration exemption under this paragraph.

"(ii) CLARITY.—The guidance document described in clause (i) shall be written in clear terms designed to be understandable by officials of small communities without expert assistance."

BINGAMAN AMENDMENT NO. 761

Mr. BINGAMAN proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 534, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. . BORDER STUDIES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) MAQUILADORA.—The term "maquiladora" means an industry located in Mexico along the border between the United States and Mexico.

(3) SOLID WASTE.—The term "solid waste" has the meaning provided the term under section 1004(27) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6903(27)).

(b) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH NORTH AMERICAN FREE-TRADE AGREEMENT.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator is authorized to conduct a study of solid waste management issues associated with increased border use resulting from the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

(2) STUDY OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH UNITED STATES-CANADA FREE-TRADE AGREEMENT.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator may conduct a similar study focused on border traffic of solid waste resulting from the implementation of the United States-Canada Free-Trade Agreement, with respect to the border region between the United States and Canada.

(c) CONTENTS OF STUDY.—A study conducted under this section shall provide for the following:

(1) A study of planning for solid waste treatment, storage, and disposal capacity (including additional landfill capacity) that would be necessary to accommodate the generation of additional household, commercial, and industrial wastes by an increased population along the border involved.

(2) A study of the relative impact on border communities of a regional siting of solid waste storage and disposal facilities.

(3) In the case of the study described in subsection (b)(1), research concerning methods of tracking of the transportation of—

(A) materials from the United States to maquiladoras; and

(B) waste from maquiladoras to a final destination.

(4) In the case of the study described in subsection (b)(1), a determination of the need for solid waste materials safety training for workers in Mexico and the United States within the 100-mile zone specified in the First Stage Implementation Plan Report for